

Docket No.: 4564-001



*Handwritten:* # 18 / April 8/16/01

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

William M. OWENS

Serial No. 09/053,832

Filed: April 1, 1998

Group Art Unit: 3724

Examiner: C. Goodman

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3100

For: FEEDWORKS DEVICE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above captioned application as to substance, please amend the claims as follows.

Please delete claims 1-8, and 14 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add new claims 15-35 as follows:

-- 15. A processing apparatus, comprising:

input and output conveyors installed in series and spaced apart from each other for carrying material to be processed in a working direction, each of said input and output conveyors including

an endless belt having an non-skid upper surface adapted to carry said material and a lower opposing surface provided thereon with a guiding strip extending longitudinally of said endless belt; and

a pair of input-side and output-side pulleys having horizontal axes of rotation around which said endless belt is trained with said non-skid upper surface facing outwardly and said guiding strip extending in a plane substantially parallel with the working direction, each of said pulleys having a groove extending

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